

REMARKS

The amendments to the specification as set forth above are intended to clarify and set apart the various sections of the subject application.

The amendments to claims 1 and 18 correspond to the amendments made under Article 34 in the above-identified International Application No. PCT/EP98/04090. The remaining amendments as set forth above are intended to remove all multiple dependent claims from the subject application and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject invention.

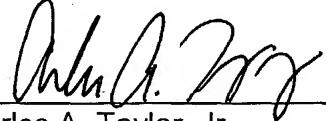
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS, WILSON & TAYLOR, P.A.

Date: July 14, 2003

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